LIBRARY
HEALTH
A 18 APR 1947
G.R. 25

BOROUGH OF AYLESBURY.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH
FOR THE YEAR 1945.

J.T.C. Sims-Roberts, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Barrister at Law.

Medical Officer of Health.

W. Ewart Muse, M.R. San.I., M.S.I.A.

Borough Sanitary Inspector.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Councillor E.S. Mackrill, (Chairman).

Alderman Mrs. Paterson, O.B.E. (The Mayor).

" J.J. Evett, (Deputy Mayor).

" J.E. Holland.

Councillor Mrs. Coventon, M.B.E.

" J. Fryer.

" T. Goodchild.

" C. Harris.

" F.B. Howard.

" A. West.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health.

John T.C. Sims-Roberts,
M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Barrister at Law.

(released for War Service, March, 1945.)

Doris Critchley, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,

(commence duties, March, 1945).

Sanitary Inspectors.

W. Ewart Ruse, A.R. San.I., M.S.I.A.,
Borough Sanitary Inspector.

E. Birch, A.R. San.I., M.S.I.A.,
Additional Sanitary Inspector.

Douglas Andrew, A.R. San.I., M.S.I.A.,
Additional Sanitary Inspector.
(resumed duties, 17th December, 1945,)

Clerical Staff.

Dennis W. Rixon *

Douglas A. Keen *

Miss P. Turing (till 6th October, 1945)

Miss E. Janes.

Miss D. Miles. (from 12th November, 1945)

*- At present serving in H.M. Forces.

BOROUGH OF AYLESBURY.

Public Health Department,

Town Hall,

AYLESBURY.

JUN 1946

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Aylesbury.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to present the annual report for the year 1945 on the health and vital statistics for the Borough of Aylesbury.

The duties of supervision as Medical Officer of Health were ably performed by Dr. Doris Critchley during my absence throughout the year with H.M. Forces.

There was no serious epidemic of infectious disease during the year, and the general standard of health in the Borough remained high. Eleven cases of Diphtheria were notified but there were no deaths. Nine of the cases occurred in children under 15 years of age and investigation proved that 5 of these cases had been previously immunised.

There were four cases of Cerebro Spinal Meningitis notified in the Borough, one death occurred, a child of 2½ years, resident outside the Borough.

The Laboratory at Stoke Mandeville Ministry of Pensions Hospital continued valuable service in the prevention of disease in the district, samples of water and milk together with pathological specimens being reported upon as a routine measure.

It is a pleasure to express my thanks to the members of the Council for the commendable assistance given to Dr. Critchley also to the Public Health Staff for their work in compiling this Report.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J.T.C. SIMS-ROBERTS.

M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area.....	3,288 acres.
Population.....	19,120.
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1945 according to Rate Books).....	4,842.
Rateable Value.....	£144,597.
Sum represented by a penny rate.....	£584.5s.

Unemployment:

At December 31st, 1945:-	At December 31st, 1944:-
4 women.	- women.
20 men.	- men.
24 Total.	- Total.

Vital Statistics.

	1945. Total.	1945. M.	1945. F.	1944. Total.	1944. M.	1944. F.
Live Births - Legitimate.....	303	149	154.	369.	178.	191.
Illegitimate.....	28.	16	12.	20.	8.	12.
Still Births - Legitimate.....	2.	1.	1.	6.	4.	2.
Illegitimate....	3.	3.	-.	-.	-.	-.

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1945... 17.31 (1944-19.54)
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births..... 17.57 (1944-19.84)

	1945. Total.	1945. M.	1945. F.	1944. Total.	1944. M.	1944. F.
Deaths.....	182.	78.	104.	198.	107.	91.

Deaths Rate per 1,000 estimated average population...9.51 (1944 - 9.94)

Deaths of infants under one year of age:-

	1945. Total.	1945. M.	1945. F.	1944. Total.	1944. M.	1944. F.
Legitimate.....	7.	4.	3.	6.	5.	1.
Illegitimate.....	2.	1.	1.	3.	2.	1.
Totals.....	9.	5.	4.	9.	7.	2.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births..... ...27.11 (1944-23.14)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 23.1. (1944-16.26)
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 71.43 (1944-150.00)

	1945. Total.	1945. M.	1945. F.	1944. Total.	1944. M.	1944. F.
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	31.	9.	22.	30.	19.	11.
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	-	-	-	-	-	-

Analysis of Deaths.

Tuberculosis Respiratory	3.
" Non-Respiratory	-.
Syphilitic Diseases	3.
Influenza	-
Whooping Cough	-
Cancer	31.
Diabetes	3.
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	26.
Heart Disease	49.
Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	11.
Bronchitis	6.
Pneumonia	8.
Other Respiratory Diseases	2.
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	5.
Other Digestive Diseases	4.
Nephritis	6.
Other Maternal Causes	-
Premature Birth	1.
Congenital Malformation, etc.	5.
Suicide	-
Road Traffic Accident	2.
Other Violent Causes	6.
Death from all other Causes	10.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Infectious Diseases.

The Aylesbury Joint Board Isolation Hospital, provides accommodation for cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment. There are 69 beds, including 2 blocks of the cubicle type. The Hospital has a consultant surgeon, and is under the medical superintendence of the Medical Officer of Health of the Borough.

Pathological Specimens.

Pathological specimens are examined at:-

1. The Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service, South Parks Road, Oxford.
2. The Stoke Mandeville Ministry of Pensions Hospital, Aylesbury.

Voluntary Hospital.

The Royal Buckinghamshire Hospital which provides accommodation for the town and neighbouring districts. Excellent work is carried out by this Hospital, but accommodation and staff are inadequate to deal with the large demands on the hospital.

During 1945 additional hospital accommodation was provided by Tindal House E.M.S. Hospital, and the Stoke Mandeville (Ministry of Pensions) E.M.S. Hospital, who have admitted cases when no beds have been available at the Royal Bucks Hospital.

Ambulance Services of the Borough.

The St. John Ambulance Brigade maintain three ambulances for dealing with accident and other cases. The ambulance services of the Borough are adequate.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

The Infant Welfare Centre, situated in Church Row, is under the control of the Bucks County Council, and is open as an Infant Welfare Clinic every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The premises are also used as a dental clinic for children of school age.

There is still an urgent need for maternity beds.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Diphtheria Immunisation has continued to be carried out during the year. Fifty four school children have been innoculated at the monthly School clinic, Pebble Lane, Aylesbury. Three hundred and four children under the age of five have been immunised at the Infant Welfare Centre.

Treatment of Venereal Diseases.

The County Council is a participant in the London and Home Counties Joint Scheme operated by the London County Council, so that local victims of these diseases may receive free treatment either at the Royal Bucks Hospital or any other approved clinic.

The number of new cases of venereal disease amongst Aylesbury residents receiving treatment at the Royal Bucks Clinic during 1945 was one hundred and eighty three. This does not include those local inhabitants who seek treatment at other centres.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The Borough receives its water supply from the wells by the Chiltern Hills Spring Water Company.

During the year seventeen samples have been taken from the tap supply, fourteen of which were for bacteriological examination and the remaining three for chemical examination.

All save two houses in the Borough are supplied directly from the public water mains, the exceptions having private wells.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The drainage and sewerage of the Borough is satisfactory, and is on the partially separate system, surface water from streets and building being discharged to water courses at various points. Owing to the differences in level, four localities are provided with pumping stations to lift the sewage into the main sewers. These are situated at Mandeville Road, Buckingham Road, California and Tring Road.

Sewage Disposal.

The Sewage Disposal Works, situated near the boundary of the town, continues to function satisfactorily.

Public Conveniences.

The supervision of these conveniences is under the Chief Sanitary Inspectior.

The town is well served by the conveniences for both sexes under the island in Kingsbury Square, used as a centre for omnibus services, and also at the Vale Ground, High Street; there is a gentlemen's convenience adjoining the Cattle Market, and temporary urinals in Upper Hundreds and Walton Road.

Public Cleansing.

The Borough Surveyor's Department have carried out this work very satisfactorily during the year.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Inspections made under the Public Health Acts were as follows:-

Slaughterhouses	856.
Butcher's Shops	109.
Food Shops	874.
Dairies and Cowsheds	168.
Bakehouses	53.
Infected House Visits	41.

Open Air Swimming Pool, Park Street.

The purification of the water in the open air swimming Pool continues to be satisfactory.

Indoor Swimming Bath, Bourbon Street.

These premises have only been used for slipper baths during the year.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

One hundred and eighteen rooms have been disfested against bed bugs; "Thermatox" gas blocks and "Zaldecide insecticide being used.

Schools.

The general sanitary condition of the Elementary Schools in the Borough is good, and the water supply is sufficient.

Local Rainfall.

January	1.34 inches.	July	2.10 inches.
February.....	1.73 "	August.....	1.66 "
March	0.70 "	September	1.88 "
April	1.41 "	October	2.92 "
May	2.28 "	November	0.18 "
June	2.55 "	December	3.31 "

Total rainfall for the year = 22.06 inches.

(Figures supplied by Mr. J.D. Dugdale, Borough Surveyor.)

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

Pasteurisation is carried out on a large scale at Messrs. Nestle's and the Aylesbury Co-operative Society's premises. Numerous samples were taken during the year to ensure that the plants were working satisfactorily.

The following milk retailers are licensed to sell "Tuberculin Tested" and "Pasteurised milk in the Borough:-

Tuberculin Tested"

1. Messrs. Nestles Milk Products, Ltd., High Street, Aylesbury.
2. Mr. A. Warren, St. John's Street, Aylesbury.
3. Mr. R.S. Pearce, Marsh Road, Stoke Mandeville.

"Tuberculin Tested." (Contd.)

4. Mr. W. Hodgkins, 87, Wendover Road, Aylesbury.
5. Mr. F.J. Davies, "Homefield", Bierton.
6. Messrs. J. Lisley & Son, 83, Tring Road, Aylesbury.
7. Mr. S.W. Walker, Burcott House, Bierton.
8. Mr. R. Launchbury, Hadley Herd Dairy, Hartwell.
9. Mr. L.J. Evett, Park Street Dairy, Aylesbury.

Pasteurised.

1. Aylesbury Co-operative Society.
2. Nestles Milk Products, Ltd., High Street, Aylesbury.

(b) Meat and Other Foods.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle Excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed.....	1,814	620	2,268	7,033	369
Number inspected....	1,814	620	2,268	7,033	369
All diseases except Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcases condemned..	4	14	14	28	10
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned....	393	209	16	89	16
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	21.89%	35.97%	1.32%	1.66%	7.06%
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcases condemned..	13	40	4	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	234	181	1	-	20
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.....	13.62%	35.65%	0.22%	-	5.42%

The total wight of meat and other foods condemned during the year was 96 tons, 17 cwts., 5¼ lbs.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Details are given below of the infectious disease notified during the year.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Measles	365	18	-
Whooping Cough..	17	2	-
Scarlet Fever...	32	29	-
Pneumonia..	9	2	8
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	6	-
Diphtheria	11	11	-
Cerebro-spinal meningitis ...	4	4	-
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis...	1	1	-
Dysentery (Amoebic)	1	1	-
" (Flexner)	1	1	-
" (Sonne)	20	18	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	-
Malaria	4+	4+	-
Erysipelas	4	4	-

Incidence of Notifiable Diseases during the year, with Analysis under Age Groups.

	0 - 1 yr.	1 - 2 yrs.	2 - 3 yrs.	3 - 4 yrs.	4 - 5 yrs.	5 - 10 yrs.	10 - 15 yrs.	15 - 20 yrs.	20 - 35 yrs.	35 - 45 yrs.	45 - 65 yrs.	Over 65 yrs.	TOTALS.
Measles	9	30	30	51	43	172	7	10	11	2	0	0	365
Whooping Cough	2	3	3	4	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
Scarlet Fever	1	0	0	4	3	19	4	1	0	0	0	0	32
Pneumonia	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	3	9
Puerperal Pyrexia..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	6
Diphtheria	0	2	1	0	0	5	0	1	1	1	0	0	11
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	4
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Sonne Dysentery ...	1	1	1	1	0	1	2	4	6	1	2	0	20
Amoebic "	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Flexner "	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

Forty-one visits were made to infected premises.

+ Non-Civilian cases.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 -	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 -	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
5 -	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
15 -	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
25 -	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
35 -	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
45 -	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55 -	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
65 and upwards	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
TOTALS:	10	9	2	1	0	2	0	0

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES.

Under the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, and the Public Health Act, 1936, visits have been made to mechanical and non-mechanical factoriesand workplaces, and informal action taken where necessary to remedy contraventions of the requirements of these Acts.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

PREMISES.	Number of Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories with mechanical power. / Factories without mechanical power.	67	Nil.	Nil.

2. Defects found.

PARTICULARS.	Number of defects. Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	In respect of which prosecutions were instituted.
Want of cleanliness (Sec.1.)	0	0	0	0
Overcrowding(Sec.2.)	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable temperature (Sec.3.)	0	0	0	0
Inadequate ventilation (Sec.4.)	0	0	0	0
Ineffective drainage of floors. (Sec.6.)	0	0	0	0
Sanitary Conveniences:- (Sec.7.)				
Insufficient.....	2	1	0	0
Unsuitable or defective.	1	1	0	0
Not separate for sexes.	1	0	0	0
Other defences.....	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	4	2	0	0

Outwork in unwholesome premises. It was not found necessary to take any action in respect of outworker's premises.

BOROUGH OF AYLESBURY.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOROUGH SANITARY INSPECTOR.

1945.

BOROUGH OF AYLESBURY.

Public Health Department,

Town Hall,

AYLESBURY.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the principal activities of the Public Health Department during the year 1945.

NUISANCES, CONTRAVENTIONS OF BYELAWS, ETC.

Complaints received and investigated	49
Nuisances, etc., found without complaint	22
Nuisances, etc., abated	51
Statutory Notices served under the Public Health Acts	1
Informal Notices served under the Public Health Acts	63
Prosecutions	Nil

HOUSES AND PREMISES INSPECTED.

The total number of inspections under the Public Health Acts was as follows :-

Dairies and Cowsheds	168
Bakehouses	53
Butchers' Shops	88
Slaughterhouses	656
Food Shops	874
Visits under the Tuberculosis Order	2
Infected House Visits (Excluding Tuberculosis cases)	41
Marine Stores	2
Miscellaneous Visits	339
	2,223

In addition to the above, visits carried out under the Housing Act, Factories Act, Shops Act, Rats and Mice Destruction Act, and Petroleum Act, and visits to Public Conveniences, Disinfestation of Vermin infested properties and inspection of Billets are shown under their respective headings in this report.

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

It is still not practicable to carry out routine inspections under the above Act, but 75 inspections and 37 re-inspections have been carried out.

Under the Government's scheme of priority for works of an urgent and essential character, 9 certificates of essentiality were issued during the year.

Under a Defence Regulation made early in 1945 the cost of works which could be carried out without Licence was reduced from £100 to £10, and Local Authorities were authorised to issue licences for work between the limits of £10 and £100. This procedure to a large extent superceded the Certificates of Essential Repair, and during the year 240 licences were issued, 147 being in respect of housing work, 97 in respect of buildings other than houses, and 6 for repair of war damaged houses.

This necessitated a considerable amount of work in checking applications and preparing reports for the Sub-Committee which authorised the issue of licences.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Four hundred and ninety seven notifications of infectious disease were received during the year, as follows:-

Measles	365
Whooping Cough	17
Scarlet Fever	32
Pneumonia	9
Tuberculosis	22
Puerperal Pyrexia	6
Erysipelas	4
Diphtheria	11
Cerebro-spinal Fever	4
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	1
Typhoid	Nil
Sonne Dysentery	20
Flexner Dysentery	1
Chronic Amoebic Dysentery	1
Para-typhoid	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2
Encephalitis Lethargica	Nil
Malaria	4
	497

Visits to infected premises... 49.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Mechanical Factories on the register requiring visiting	56
Non-mechanical Factories on the register requiring visiting	55
Visits paid to factories	64

PREMISES ON THE REGISTER REQUIRING VISITING.

Bakehouses	13
Dairies	13
Cowsheds	8
	34

Visits paid to Bakehouses	53
Visits paid to Cowsheds and Dairies	168
	321

NOTICES SERVED RE. CLEANSING, WATER SUPPLY, ETC.

Cowsheds and Dairies	26
Bakehouses	26
Factories and Workplaces	-
	52

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

Three Cowkeepers within the Borough are licenced by the County Council as producers of "Accredited" milk. Another Cowkeeper is licenced by the County Council to produce "Tuberculin Tested" Milk.

Two dairies hold "Pasteuriser's" licences, 9 milk purveyors are licenced to retail "Tuberculin Tested" milk, and one to retail "Pasteurised" milk, and another purveyor is licenced to bottle and retail "tuberculin Tested" milk. These licences are issued by the Borough Council.

Sixty-six samples of milk were taken during the year, the majority of which satisfied the requirements of the Milk (Special Designations) Order. Investigations were made in all cases which failed to reach the required standards, and the source of failure remedied, all further samples proving satisfactory.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND FOOD SUPPLY.

Slaughterhouse Inspections	856
Butchers' Shops Inspections	109
Food Shops Inspections	874.

The number of animals slaughtered during the year was as follows :-

	Bulls	Steers	Heifers	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total.
1st Qtr.	25	146	92	182	567	1,946	192	3,150
2nd Qtr.	36	313	125	109	287	1,257	90	2,217
3rd Qtr.	13	315	252	155	467	1,538	43	2,783
4th Qtr.	12	240	245	174	947	2,292	44	3,954
TOTAL :	86	1,014	714	620	2,268	7,033	369	12,104

The number of carcases examined was as follows :-

	Killed	Examined	Percentage.
Bulls	86	86	100%
Steers	1,014	1,014	100%
Heifers	714	714	100%
Cows	620	620	100%
Calves	2,268	2,268	100%
Sheep	7,033	7,033	100%
Pigs	369	369	100%
TOTAL :	12,104	12,104	100%

The following unsound food was surrendered during 1945 :-

Cow Beef	27,842 lbs.
Cow Offals	18,239 "
Other Beef	10,352 "
Other Bovine Offals	16,443 "
Pork	1,079 "
Pork Offals	671 "
Mutton	1,426 "
Mutton Offals	532½ "
Veal	1,415 "
Miscellaneous	138,949¾ "
	216,949¼ "

TOTAL : 96 Tons, 17 Cwts., 5¼ lbs.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle Excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs
Number killed.....	1,814	620	2,268	7,033	369
Number inspected..	1,814	620	2,268	7,033	369
All diseases except Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcases condemned...	4	14	14	28	10
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	393	209	16	89	16
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	21.89%	35.97%	1.32%	1.66%	7.06%
Tuberculosis Only :					
Whole carcases condemned...	13	40	4	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	234	181	1	-	20
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	13.62%	35.65%	0.22%	-	5.42%

Centralised slaughter of animals is carried out under Government control.

For the time being all slaughterhouse licences except those premises under Government control have been suspended. Slaughtermens' licences are still issued to all men carrying out this work.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928.

Licences issued for the storage of petroleum spirit..... 58
Licences issued for the storage of Carbide of Calcium..... 5
Total fees received for the above licences..... £46-5s-0d.

Quantity licensed to be kept :-

Petroleum Spirit..... 125,404 galls.
Carbide of Calcium..... 1,560 lbs.

Inspections of Petrol and Carbide stores..... 12.

CANAL BOATS ACTS AND REGULATIONS.

The branch of the canal serving Aylesbury has been closed during the whole of the year due to lack of water, and no inspections have been possible.

SHOPS ACTS.

Strict supervision under the above mentioned Acts is still not so necessary as in peace-time as closing hours are now far below those allowed by the Acts.

Eleven visits were made during the year.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES :

The state of the public convenciences throughout the year was satisfactory, and apart from some minor damage caused at nights when the attendants were off duty, there were very few complaints.

265 visits were made during the year.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.
RODENT INFESTATION ORDER, 1943.

Work under this heading has continued to occupy a large amount of time, and much good work has been done in this direction throughout the year.

The following is a brief summary of the work carried out:-

Number of complaints received.....	68
Number of premises cleared of rats.....	74
Number of premises cleared of mice.....	9
Estimated number of rats destroyed.....	916
Actual rats bodies found.....	190
Visits of Inspection.....	230
Visits for baiting and extermination.....	388

WATER SUPPLY :

Seventeen samples (14 bacteriological, and 3 chemical) have been submitted to the Analyst during the year, and all were found to be fit for drinking and domestic purposes.

BILLETS :

The inspection of billets on change of occupants has continued throughout the year, and the following visits have been made for the purpose:-

Number of billets inspected.....	281
Number of visits made.....	234

DISINFESTATION :

Disinfestation of premises against vermin has been carried out by spraying and gassing; one hundred and eighteen rooms having been treated during the year.

The gassing chamber at the rear of Church House was used nine times during the year for disinfestation of beds, bedding and clothing from billets.

GENERAL :

Douglas Andrew was repatriated in September 1945, and called to see me shortly after his return. I was agreeably surprised at his appearance after the unpleasant experiences he has passed through. Mr. Andrew resumed his duties as Sanitary Inspector at his request on December 17th, 1945.

Dennis Rixon is now serving in Northern Ireland, and Douglas Keen is still in India.

Owing to the return to duty of Mr. Andrew, Mr. E. Birch, who was seconded from Bradford City Council, ceased his duties with the Council on December 31st. I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the valuable assistance given me by Mr. Birch, and to pay tribute to the efficient and tactful manner in which he carried out all the duties entrusted to him.

Finally, I wish to express my thanks to members of the Council for their continued help and encouragement, to members of my staff for their loyal co-operation and to my fellow officers for advice and assistance.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

Your obedient Servant,

W. EWART RUSE, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.,

Borough Sanitary Inspector.